



Rule Up For Discussion

Proposed Amendment to

WAC 230-40-070

Licensee to furnish all cards, chips and other services.

ITEM 12 (a) on the April 9, 2004, Commission Meeting Agenda.

Statutory Authority 9.46.070

Who proposed the rule change?

Bob Tull, on behalf of DigiDeal Corporation.

Why is this rule change needed?

We received a Petition for Rule Change from Bob Tull, on behalf of DigiDeal Corporation. Mr. Tull is requesting an amendment to WAC 230-40-070. Currently, this rule allows electronic facsimiles of cards to be used in house-banked card games. Mr. Tull is requesting an amendment to allow electronic facsimiles of cards to be used for all card games, not just house-banked card games (for example, poker games).

Whether to allow this or not is a policy decision for the Commission. If the Commission chooses to allow electronic facsimiles of card for all card games, staff believes regulatory oversight should be at a higher level than games played with traditional cards. Therefore, staff would recommend they only be allowed for house-banked card room licensees, because the games are played on a relatively sophisticated electronic device.

At the April Commission Meeting, we anticipate DigiDeal will provide a demonstration of their system.

Attached:

Memo dated February 26, 2004, from the Rules Team regarding the Petition
Petition for Rule Change and proposed amendment to WAC 230-40-070
Letter Bob Tull notifying him of the April Commission meeting

Blue Paper: Letter dated February 27, 2004, from Keith Wittmers, special agent/card room coordinator, notifying DigiDeal that Trips II and Trips III, which were submitted for approval, do not comply with Commission rules; game rules submitted for the two Trips games; WAC 230-40-070 and WAC 230-40-120

Statements against the proposed rule change.

None at this time.

Which licensees will be directly impacted?

Non-house banked room licensees.

What are the potential impacts to the agency?

Minimal.

Staff recommendation.

Whether or not to allow this is a policy decision. The attached memorandum includes some issues the Commission may wish to consider in making this decision.